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NCEA 30 Day Outlook 1-24 - 2018.docx

**National Center for Environmental Assessment
Weekly Report for January 24th, 2017**

Notables listed below and 30-day Outlook attached.

HOT TOPICS

Discussions on Denka. On January 24th, John Vandenberg will participate in a discussion with Region 6, the Office of the General Council, and the Office of Air Quality Planning and Standards regarding a request from Professor Squillance of the University of Colorado-Boulder Law School, representing a community group, for emergency action to reduce emissions, exposure and potential risks to the population living near the Denka Performance Elastomers facility in LaPlace, LA. John is also supporting Region 6 as they develop a response to a letter from Jimmy Guidry, State Health Officer and Medical Director for LA, requesting information on the EPA's assessment of chloroprene health conclusions.

External Peer Review Meeting on the Maximum Contaminant Level Goal for Perchlorate (MCLG). On January 29th, Paul Schlosser will make a presentation at the External Peer Review Meeting for EPA's draft approaches for deriving a maximum contaminant level goal (MCLG) for perchlorate in drinking water. In his presentation, he will summarize details of the new model, describe conclusions that can be made based upon that model, and address some comments received during the public comment period for the Perchlorate MCLG Approach Report.

IRIS NAS Workshop. The NAS IRIS workshop will be held February 1-2, 2018 in Washington DC. Over 300 people have registered to participate; 20 have registered to provide public comments. More information can be found: <http://dels.nas.edu/Upcoming-Workshop/Review-Advances-Made/DELS-BEST-17-03>.

PUBLIC ACTIVITIES

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North Carolina Science Advisory Board meeting. On January 29th, John Vandenberg will participate in the North Carolina Science Advisory Board meeting. The focus of the meeting is to discuss the derivation of an Established Health Goal of Gen-X by representatives from the Netherlands and presentations by NC Department of Health and Human Services on the available data related to Gen-X exposures in the Cape Fear watershed and on their review of the Gen-X health studies.

Annual Winter Meeting of the Toxicology Forum. On January 29th, Glenn Rice is invited to speak at the 42nd Annual Winter Meeting of the Toxicology Forum in session entitled, Sufficient Similarity of Complex Substances and Mixtures: From Case Studies to Application.

Johns Hopkins Grand Rounds: Tina Bahadori has been invited to give a seminar on February 9th at the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health Department of Environmental Health and Engineering Grand Rounds seminar series. In addition to the seminar, she will have focused meetings and discussions with the faculty and students on emerging topics in environment and public health decision making and the role of risk assessment.

WITHIN EPA

Region 9 Conductivity Briefing. Region 9 requested a briefing this week by Dr. Susan Cormier on the various tools that NCEA has developed for assessing dissolved minerals and how they may be used to assess drought and stream salinization.

Region 2 PCB Support. On January 24th, Laura Carlson and Geniece Lehmann will meet with from Region 2 on to discuss the IRIS PCB Assessment. Laura and Geniece will provide an update on current activities of the polychlorinated biphenyl (PCB) Assessment Team, and solicit input from Region 2 about their needs for the assessment and specific issues their region is facing regarding PCBs.

Preparation for Meeting with House Science Space and Technology Committee. On January 26th, Tina Bahadori and John Vandenberg are participating in a pre-meeting that is preparing for EPA's meeting with the House Science Space and Technology committee to discuss the HONEST Act.

OCSPP Training. On January 30th – 31st, Ryan Jones will be giving an in-person training to OCSPP on citation capabilities within the Health and Environmental Research Online (HERO) database. OCSPP is using HERO to develop assessments to support TSCA implementation.

OCSPP Brownbag Presentation. Alan Sasso will be giving a brownbag presentation to OCSPP entitled "Applications of physiologically-based pharmacokinetic models for human health risk assessment."

OPP Support. Annie Jarabek provided a briefing and led a discussion with OPP's Health Effects Division (HED) regarding the requested evaluation of an acute range-finding study of inhaled phosphine in rats. Phosphine is a fumigant which may be used for a variety of purposes. The briefing entailed a tutorial on airflow and ADME for inhaled gases, with several recommendations to improve the study design and execution of the next inhalation study, which will be captured in a technical memorandum by HED going back to the registrant and laboratory conducting the study.

OPP Support. Annie Jarabek conducted a requested review with the OPP's Health Effects Division (HED) of a revised document and disposition of previous comments regarding a "*Refinement of Inhalation Exposure and Risk Assessment to Pesticide Handlers*" for diquat dibromide (diquat) submitted by the registrant for reconsideration. Diquat is a non-selective contact herbicide, algicide, desiccant and defoliant currently registered for a wide variety of agricultural, aquatic and residential applications.

OTHER ACTIVITIES

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OPM Training. On January 29th – February 1st, facilitators from Office of Personal Management's (OPM) Eastern Management Development Center will be offering a training

opportunity titled “Leadership at the EPA” to staff in Cincinnati. Research triangle Park will have the same training course February 5th – 8th. This program is designed to help participants discover and enhance their role as leaders and employees of the EPA.

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